

A courtesy copy of the originally-filed PCT specification is enclosed herewith, but the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent Office.

Please add the following paragraph on page 3, line 4.

ad --The document JP-A-09304310 describes a process for preventing the risk of spontaneous ignition in which the temperature is measured in the sample holding container and in which the critical moment is determined both on the basis of the time which has elapsed and by comparing the measured temperature with the critical temperature. The critical moment of the sample in said process is therefore not literally known.--

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend the following claims as indicated below. A marked-up copy of all claims is attached for reference.

sub.C1
13 5. (amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that use is made of alarm means or means for preventing spontaneous ignition and/or explosion of said atmosphere when the time elapsed from the moment of creation of said atmosphere approaches the critical moment (τ_1) of spontaneous ignition.

6. (amended) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the implementation of the alarm means and/or means for preventing spontaneous ignition and/or explosion of said atmosphere is engaged manually or automatically.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 5 and 6.